



February 18, 2010

Professor Douglas O. Richstone, Chair  
Department of Astronomy  
University of Michigan  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1042

Dear Professor Richstone:

On behalf of the Dark Energy Survey (DES), I am submitting the attached proposal for 100 scheduled nights of observing time on the University of Michigan Department of Astronomy's Curtis-Schmidt telescope in late-2010 and early-2011 in order to conduct a quick, bright survey of stars within the DES footprint for the purpose of supporting DES calibrations.

In exchange for this time, the DES agrees to provide the NASA debris program access to the Curtis-Schmidt during DES time if the need arises, to pay all expenses resulting from DES use of the facility, to provide 10% of DES science time to Chilean astronomers through service observing, and to contribute hardware upgrades for the telescope (a new folding flat + support structure and a new flatfield screen + illumination system). Details of this agreement will be described in a forthcoming Memorandum of Understanding.

We understand the importance of the current NASA debris program, and that one of the conditions for DES use of the Curtis-Schmidt is no interference with the NASA program. We appreciate this opportunity to request observing time on Curtis-Schmidt, and thank you for considering our observing program.

Sincerely,

John Peoples, Jr  
Dark Energy Survey Director